

Remarks

Applicant makes this election with traversal, and sets forth the following arguments:

The election requirement maintains that the inventions set forth in Invention I and II are related as apparatus for its practice and process, and further, that the inventions are distinct and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter.

Applicant respectfully believes that the reasons given for requiring election are not valid for the present application. The election requirement maintains that Invention I, claims 1-11 are drawn to a gripping device and Invention II, claims 12-17 are drawn to a process for producing an electrostatic gripper. However, the electrostatic gripper of claims 12-17 is the same gripping device as defined in claims 1-11.

It should be noted that the gripping device is not an apparatus for carrying out the process of Invention II. No apparatus is disclosed for practicing the process of Invention II. Therefore, the distinction is not valid for the present application.

Further, the distinction set forth in the election requirement is not accurate because no apparatus is claimed to practice any process.

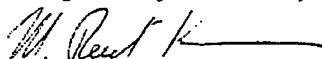
The gripping device is for gripping wafers, not for producing anything, but certainly is not for producing an electrostatic gripper.

For the above stated reasons, Applicant respectfully believes the election requirement should be withdrawn.

A one-month extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action is hereby requested. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 is enclosed to cover the prescribed Small Entity one-month extension fee of \$60.

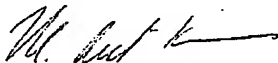
Wherefore further consideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



M. Robert Kestenbaum
Reg. No. 20,430
11011 Bermuda Dunes NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87111
Phone (505) 323-0771
Fax (505) 323-0865

I hereby certify this correspondence is being submitted by facsimile to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia on September 4, 2005, fax number (571) 273 8300.



M. Robert Kestenbaum